PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

14.

In re application of Docket No: Q77892

Yoshihiko SHIBAHARA, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: October 21, 2003 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed no later than three months from the application's filing date, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Docket No. Q77892

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

A concise explanation of the relevance of the listed documents is provided in the specification. See page 1 of the specification. In addition, English language abstracts of the

Japanese patent documents are submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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23373 CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 21, 2003

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Complete if Known			
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned		
				Filing Date	October 21, 2003		
				First Named Inventor	Yoshihiko SHIBAHARA et al.		
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				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q77892		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		Document N	lumber			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or		
	Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶	
		JP	2001-059999	Α	03/06/2001		Abstract
		JР	2001-166436	Α	06/22/2001		Abstract
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.